

The Alexandria Gazette.

VOLUME LXIII.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 24, 1862.

NUMBER 315.

PUBLISHED (DAILY) BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN, JR.
OFFICE—No. 104 King street, over
Stone's, (formerly French's) Book Store.

CONGRESS.—The President transmitted to the Senate, yesterday, the report of Hon. Reverdy Johnson in relation to his action as Commissioner at New Orleans. Mr. Lane, of Kansas, gave notice of a bill to provide for the organization of two hundred negro regiments. The matter of chartering of transports for Gen. Banks' expedition was referred to a select committee, with instructions also to investigate generally as to the chartering and employment of transports. The resolution of Mr. Saulsbury in relation to the sending of troops into Delaware at the time of the State election was further discussed, but no vote taken. The General Bankrupt bill was amended, and the Senate adjourned to the first Monday in January.

In the House, Mr. Pendleton, as a question of privilege, claimed that the protest against the indemnity bill, presented by him yesterday, should have been entered upon the journal. The Speaker overruled the question and was sustained by the House—yeas 74, nays 20. The bill giving the franking privilege to the Assessors of the Internal Tax was rejected.—The Committee on the Judiciary were instructed to investigate certain facts in relation to the alleged want of loyalty of J. C. G. Kennedy, Superintendent of the Census Bureau. The bill to improve the organization of the cavalry forces was passed. The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and finally adjourned to the 5th of January.

LATER FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Richmond papers of the 20th received here, contain further particulars of the war in North Carolina. The Examiner says that the Confederate forces at Goldsboro' on Wednesday evening, 17th inst., were about 17,000 strong, and that reinforcements were hourly arriving. General Smith was represented to be sanguine of success, and it was reported that General Lee had telegraphed him that he could spare, if necessary, 30,000 men.

A later dispatch to the North Carolina Standard states that the Confederates have disappeared south of Goldsboro'.

Mr. Adams, has just transmitted to the president of the Royal National Life Boat Institution, by the direction of President Lincoln, the sum of one hundred pounds, (say five hundred dollars,) as a donation to its general funds, and also about one hundred and fifty dollars more to be distributed among the crew of one of the boats which went to the relief of the Ann E. Hooper which was wrecked on the British coast some months ago.

The conservatives are jubilant over the retention of Secretaries Blair and Seward, since it is considered a defeat of the radicals.

Battle of Fredericksburg. [Southern Accounts.]

The Richmond papers contain full accounts of the battle of Fredericksburg, and all claim a great victory, with a loss in killed, wounded and missing variously estimated at from 2,000 to 3,000. They set down the Federal loss at not less than 10,000 in killed wounded and missing. The Dispatch declares it to have been "the greatest battle ever fought on this continent."

Capt. H. Lord King, son of T. Butler King, and aid to Gen. McLaws, was killed during the battle.

This is the tenth pitched battle in which General Lee has commanded, within less than six months, and in all of them he has been victorious.

The damage done by the bombardment of Fredericksburg is estimated at \$250,000.

Brompton, the elegant mansion of John L. Marye, was well nigh destroyed. There are some fifty cannon ball holes through the parlor alone.

After the Federals evacuated the city we found large numbers of guns, knapsacks, haversacks, crackers, salt pork and at least one hundred thousand rounds of good cartridges. Gen. Stonewall Jackson, who many almost believe leads a charmed life, had a very narrow escape. He was watching the battle, and standing at the time near an oak tree, when a bullet struck not more than two inches above his head.

After the severe wound of Gen. Gregg was received, he sent for Gen. Jackson, with whom he had a long interview. When it was announced that the wound was considered mortal, he requested one of his aids to send several messages to different friends in South Carolina.—Among others was one to Gov. Pickens, which was reported to us as follows: "Tell Governor Pickens, if I am to die at this time, I yield my life cheerfully, fighting for the independence of South Carolina."

On the left, where the fighting was intensely severe, the brigade of South Carolinians, commanded by Gen. Kershaw, suffered heavily.—The 3d regiment of South Carolina Volunteers was nearly annihilated. In the early part of the engagement their colonel, lieutenant colonel and major, were all wounded, and the command devolved upon the senior captain, who was killed in fifteen minutes after assuming command. His place was supplied by the second senior captain, and he, too, fell mortally wounded in a very short time.

The complete official return of the Union losses in the late battle at Fredericksburg foot up in killed, wounded and missing, to 12,311, divided as follows:

	Killed.	Wounded	Missing.	Total.
Right.....	473	4,000	448	5,361
Centre.....	326	2,468	754	3,543
Left.....	339	2,547	576	3,457
Total.....	1,123	9,105	2,078	12,311

The commencement of the decline in the price of paper, is noticed in Boston.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Dec. 23.—A flag of truce crossed the Rappahannock this afternoon with a communication for Gen. Lee, the purport of which has not been made public, but probably relates to some refugees who are anxious to come within the lines, and other unimportant matters.

Richmond papers of yesterday and to-day have found their way here. The Examiner says the losses in Gen. P. Hill's division on the 13th was 211 killed, 1,494 wounded and 417 missing. This division was confronted by Franklin's left, and consisted of six brigades, with artillery. More than half the Confederate loss occurred in this division.

Intelligence from below on the Rappahannock is to the effect that the Confederates have considerably strengthened their forces near Port Royal, and that the Confederates maintain a contraband communication with their Northern friends, via the Potomac and Mattox Creek, crossing the Peninsula and Rappahannock at Leeds, about forty miles below this point.

No shots have been exchanged with the Confederates for several days. The river pickets maintain a friendly disposition towards each other.

President Lincoln's Address.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, December 22, 1862.

To the Army of the Potomac:—I have just read your Commanding General's preliminary report of the battle of Fredericksburg. Although you were not successful, the attempt was not an error, nor the failure other than an accident. The courage with which you, in an open field, maintained the contest against an entrenched foe and the consummate skill and success with which you crossed and re-crossed the river, in face of the enemy, show that you possess all the qualities of a great army, which will yet give victory to the cause of the country and of popular government. Condoling with the mourners for the dead, and sympathizing with the severely wounded, I congratulate you that the number of both is comparatively so small.

I tender to you, officers and soldiers, the thanks of the nation. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

GEN. BURNSIDE'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Dec. 23.—Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief:—In my report to you of the 19th inst., the number of our wounded was stated at almost nine thousand, and the number receiving hospital treatment as sixteen hundred and thirty.

Both of these statements are wrong. On the authority of Dr. Letterman, our Medical Director, I learn that the whole number of our wounded is between six and seven thousand. About one half are receiving treatment in hospitals.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Maj. Gen. Comd'g Army Potomac.